

3 December 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA : Deputy Director for Plans
SUBJECT : White House Task Force on the
Heroin Problem - Status Report

1. This is for the DCI's information.
2. The Working Group met on 1 December 1969 and again this morning to ratify a progress report drafted by Chairman Schwartz. A copy is attached.
3. The cover letter notes that the jurisdictional conflict between BNDD and Treasury remains unresolved. The interested parties hope thereby to raise the issue at your Task Force meeting Thursday. We fortunately are not part of the problem.
4. The Working Group deliberated both days over the joint BNDD/CIA study on Suppression of Poppy Production in Turkey. Apparently, we gave them more than they expected on crop substitution and probably less than they wanted on pre-emptive buying. Chairman Schwartz is nervous about sending it to the Task Force because it shows need for a longer term and costlier program than he thinks warranted at this point. I deferred to BNDD who did not object to the study being "remanded" to a larger group for rewriting. *— already forwarded to DD*
5. Our estimate of \$4 to \$5 million as the cost of buying the 1970 crop also may be a sticking point with the group as well as their lingering hope that the Turks will plow the crop under, a hope that Ambassador Handley does not regard as realistic per attached report from John Ingersoll.


CI/Liaison

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Remarks:

Dick: status

Attached is [redacted] report to the DCI on the Heroin Problem actions by the WH Task Force working group to date. The TF met 4 Dec and the up-shot I understand is that Dr. Kissinger directed State to prepare a detailed scenario of realistic proposals designed to absorb as much of the 1970 opium crop in Turkey as realistically can be accomplished short of plowing it under. I assume that we will have a crack at State's paper before its due date at the end of next week. I will keep you advised if we run into any major problems. OER [redacted] (shop) is closely involved.

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